

TITLE

PROCESS FOR BONDING OF STITCHED CARPETS

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A thermoplastic binder applied in the vicinity of the
roots of a pile surface structure, typically before stitching,
is raised above its melting point but below the critical
exposure temperature that can adversely affect the properties
0 of the material forming the pile elements. While at this
elevated temperature the pile surface structure is
mechanically flexed, as by repeatedly bending the backing with
the pile loops thereon into and out of its plane. This
flexing action assists the molten (but not freely flowing)
5 binder to propagate into the roots of the pile elements and
into the interstices between the fibers forming the same.